**Listing of the Claims:**

The following is a complete listing of all the claims in the application, with an indication of the status of each:

1     1 (Currently Amended).  A fault monitoring method, comprising the steps

2     of:

3         providing a plurality of portable radio communication terminals in

4     a commodity management system, each of which manages commodities by

5     communicating with an inventory controller via a radio communication

6     base station;

7         automatically executing a test of a radio communication section in

8     arbitrary portable radio communication terminals when a number of

9     retrying times of radio communication between said arbitrary portable

10     radio communication terminals and said radio communication base station

11     exceeds a predetermined number of times; and

12         displaying a fault of said radio communication section on a display

13     section of said arbitrary portable radio communication terminals when said

14     fault occurs <u>and</u>

15         <u>wherein a call time interval of retrying said radio communication</u>

16     <u>between said arbitrary portable radio communication terminals and said</u>

17     <u>radio communication base station is set longer than an average</u>

18     <u>communication time of said radio communication between each of said</u>

19     <u>portable radio communication terminals and said radio communication</u>

20     <u>base station in said commodity management system.</u>

1     2.     (Previously Presented).  A fault monitoring method of a plurality of

2     portable radio communication terminals used in a commodity management

3     system, each of which manages commodities by communicating with an

4     inventory controller via a radio communication base station, said fault

5     monitoring method comprising:

6       a step of automatically executing a test of a radio communication

7       section in arbitrary portable radio communication terminals when a

8       number of retrying times of radio communication between said portable

9       radio communication terminals and said radio communication base station

10       exceeds a predetermined number of times; and

11       a step of displaying a fault of said radio communication section on

12       a display section of said arbitrary portable radio communication terminals

13       when said fault occurs,

14       wherein a call time interval of retrying said radio communication

15       between said arbitrary portable radio communication terminals and said

16       radio communication base station is set longer than an average

17       communication time of said radio communication between each of said

18       portable radio communication terminals and said radio communication

19       base station in said commodity management system.


1       3.     (Previously Presented).  A fault monitoring method of a plurality of

2       portable radio communication terminals used in a commodity management

3       system, each of which manages commodities by communicating with an

4       inventory controller via a radio communication base station, said fault

5       monitoring method:

6       a step of automatically executing a test of a radio communication

7       section in arbitrary portable radio communication terminals when a

8       number of retrying times of radio communication between said arbitrary

9       portable radio communication terminals and said radio communication

10       base station exceeds a predetermined number of times; and

11       a step of displaying a fault of said radio communication section on

12       a display section of said arbitrary portable radio communication terminals

13       when said fault occurs,

14       wherein said test for said radio communication section is executed

15       after checking that said radio communication between each of said

16    portable radio communication terminals other than said arbitrary portable

17    radio communication terminals and said radio communication base station

18    is vacant continuously in a case out of an execution prohibiting time zone

19    in said commodity management system.


1    4.    (Previously Presented). The fault monitoring method of a plurality

2    of portable radio communication terminals used in a commodity

3    management system according to Claim 3, wherein said test for said radio

4    communication section is executed after passing a predetermined time by

5    returning to a check of a vacant state in said case out of said execution

6    prohibiting time zone in said commodity management system when said

7    radio communication between each of said portable radio communication

8    terminals other than said arbitrary portable radio communication terminals

9    and said radio communication base station and is waited for until said

10    vacant state.


1    5.    (Previously Presented). The fault monitoring method of a plurality

2    of portable radio communication terminals used in the commodity

3    management system according to Claim 3, wherein said test for said radio

4    communication section is executed after passing a predetermined time by

5    returning to a check of said execution prohibiting time zone of said test in

6    a case in said execution prohibiting time zone in said commodity

7    management system and is waited for until out of said execution

8    prohibiting time zone.


1    6.    (Previously Presented) The fault monitoring method of a plurality

2    of portable radio communication terminals used in a commodity

3    management system according to Claim 4, wherein said test for said radio

4    communication section is executed after passing a predetermined time by

5    returning to a check of said execution prohibiting time zone of said test in

6      a case in said execution prohibiting time zone in said commodity

7      management system and is waited for until out of said execution

8      prohibiting time zone.

1      7.    (Currently Amended).  A storage medium storing a fault

2      monitoring program to cause a computer to carry out a fault monitoring

3      method of a plurality of portable radio communication terminals in a

4      commodity management system, each of which commodities by

5      communicating with an inventory controller via a radio communication

6      base station, said fault monitoring method comprising:

7      a step of automatically executing a test of a radio communication

8      section in arbitrary portable radio communication terminals when a

9      number of retrying times of radio communication between said arbitrary

10      portable radio communication terminals and said radio communication

11      base station exceeds a predetermined number of times; and

12      a step of displaying a fault of said radio communication section on

13      a display section of said arbitrary portable radio communication terminals

14      when said fault occurs, and

15      wherein a call time interval of retrying said radio communication

16      between said arbitrary portable radio communication terminals and said

17      radio communication base station is set longer than an average

18      communication time of said radio communication between each of said

19      portable radio communication terminals and said radio communication

20      base station in said commodity management system.

1      8.    (Currently Amended)  A fault monitoring program to cause a

2      computer to carry out a fault monitoring method of a plurality of portable

3      radio communication terminals in a commodity management system, each

4      of which manages commodities by communicating with an inventory

5      controller via a radio communication base station, said fault monitoring

6      method comprising:

7      a step of automatically executing a test of a radio communication

8      section in arbitrary portable radio communication terminals when a

9      number of retrying times of radio communication between said arbitrary

10      portable radio communication terminals and said radio communication

11      base station exceeds a predetermined number of times; and

12      a step of displaying a fault of said radio communication section on

13      a display section of said arbitrary portable radio communication terminals

14      when said fault occurs, and

15      wherein a call time interval of retrying said radio communication

16      between said arbitrary portable radio communication terminals and said

17      radio communication base station is set longer than an average

18      communication time of said radio communication between each of said

19      portable radio communication terminals and said radio communication

20      base station in said commodity management system.